

REMARKS RELATING TO REJECTIONS OF RECORD

The specification has been amended to give the current address of the depository in which the applicants' strain of CHL004 has been deposited. Attached hereto is the attorney's declaration concerning the deposit.

Regarding objections relating to the Latin name, the underlining of the name is considered an alternative to italicization.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-3. Hence, rejections relating to those claims are moot.

Claim ~~4~~⁷ has been amended to recited the ATCC deposit number. Hence, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is deemed rendered moot.

Applicant hereby traverses the rejection of claims 4-6 (now 5-7) under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Vesper and U.S. Patent 5,863,750 to Pierce. The claims relate to the organism of interest on a solid matrix wherein the matrix contains iron. The examiner has cited no reference suggesting that any organism be growing on a solid matrix wherein the matrix contains iron. As indicated at page 4, lines 30-34, and exemplified at the paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7, the iron makes it possible to withdraw the contaminated material sequestered by use of electromagnets. There is no suggestion in any reference cited indicating that such a composition should be useful for any purpose. Hence, the claims can not be considered obvious over any art of record. The examiner has recited column 33, lines 26-31 of Patent 5,863,750 as suggesting use of activated carbon and/or iron. However, no teaching relating to use of iron in conjunc-

tion with a solid support having organisms attached thereto is seen there.

It is believed the claims are now in condition for allowance. If discussion would facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at (703) 425-8405.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Glenna Hendricks".

Glenna Hendricks, Reg. No. 32,535